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ARBOR DAY

Its Purpose and Observance

U. S. DEPARTMENT
of AGRICULTURE

FARMERS' BULLETIN
No. 1492

ARBOR DAY in the United States has become a symbol of our faith in the future. Its observance in the planting of trees is indicative of our continual effort to help Nature help us and of our determination to use better our natural resources.

The Arbor Day tree is a thing of beauty as well as utility. Even more beautiful and more important to the national well-being than the trees of the streets and parks, however, are the great forests of pine and fir and hardwoods that clothe our mountainsides and the sandy plains. They should be a never-failing source of wood, water, and other necessities of life and civilization. An abundant supply of timber has always had a basic influence on the development of the United States and on the high standards of living characteristic of this country.

Love of trees is the first essential in understanding the importance of forests to our national welfare and prosperity. The planting of trees by schools or organizations on Arbor Day is usually accompanied by ceremonies intended not only to impress upon those present the beauty of trees and their effect in improving the appearance of school grounds, streets, parks, highways, etc., but also to lead them to a realization of the value of community and national foresight in the use and maintenance of natural resources.

While closely allied with ideas economic and aesthetic, all over the United States Arbor Day also takes the form of a patriotic event. As such it partakes of the nature of a Fourth-of-July celebration or the observance of Washington's Birthday. It thus exemplifies our wish for a happier and more provident civilization.

ARBOR DAY, ITS PURPOSE AND OBSERVANCE

PREPARED BY THE FOREST SERVICE

Contents

	Page		Page
Origin of Arbor Day.....	1	Planting trees along streets and highways.....	22
Spread of the observance of Arbor Day.....	2	Forest planting on farms.....	24
The time of Arbor Day.....	6	Trees for memorial purposes.....	26
Arbor Day and forest conservation.....	14	Arbor Day and Christmas trees.....	28
Tree planting in public forests.....	16	Information about planting.....	30
Tree planting for watershed protection.....	20	Arbor Day and the spirit of civic betterment.....	31

ORIGIN OF ARBOR DAY

TREE-PLANTING FESTIVALS are probably as old as civilization. Sacred trees and groves, planted avenues and roadsides, shaded academic walks, and memorial trees were common long before North America was discovered. Arbor Day, as such, however, is



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FIGURE 1.—Since its establishment in Nebraska, Arbor Day has become an occasion for tree planting and for study of the wise use or conservation of forest resources in communities all over the United States.

purely American in origin and grew out of conditions peculiar to the Great Plains, a country practically treeless over much of its area but supporting a flourishing agriculture and with a soil and climate well able to nourish tree growth.

Arbor Day originated and was first observed in Nebraska in 1872 (fig. 1). The plan was conceived and the name "Arbor Day" proposed

NOTE.—The illustration on the cover shows Aileen Bennett and Paul Garrett looking at trees that they helped to set out in the school plantation at Minford, Ohio, when they were in the sixth grade.

F-385459

by J. Sterling Morton, then a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and later United States Secretary of Agriculture. At a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture of Nebraska, held at Lincoln, January 4, 1872, he introduced a resolution to the effect that Wednesday, the 10th day of April 1872 be especially set apart and consecrated to tree planting in the State of Nebraska and named Arbor Day.

The resolution was adopted, and prizes were offered to the county agricultural society and to the individual who should plant the greatest number of trees. Wide publicity was given to the plan, and more than a million trees were planted in Nebraska on that first Arbor Day.

SPREAD OF THE OBSERVANCE OF ARBOR DAY

Tree planting was no new thing in Nebraska when the Arbor Day plan was originated by Mr. Morton, for the first settlers found that the lack of trees was a serious drawback, and some attempt was soon made to supply the deficiency. Every farmer needs wood for fuel and fence posts. Just as imperative is the need of protection for



F 366687

FIGURE 2.—On the prairies and Plains, as in this Nebraska farm home, trees are a sign of stability and permanence and an inspiration for others to plant them both for beauty and their value in protecting man and his crops and livestock.

orchards, field crops, and buildings from the winds that sweep unhindered over that vast Plains region (fig. 2). Before 1872, however, tree planting had been haphazard. The adoption of the Arbor Day plan meant organization of the work. Thereafter the people of Nebraska were being continually reminded of the desirability of planting trees and at the same time were furnished with instructions regarding the choice of species and how to plant and care for them.

As early as April 4, 1895, the State had become so active in tree raising that the legislature passed a resolution that the State be popularly known as the Tree Planter's State. From being practically a treeless State, only about 3 percent of the total area having originally been covered with natural timber, Nebraska has become one of the leaders in practical forestry. Planting was given added impetus in Nebraska when the Bessey Nursery at Halsey, operated by the Federal Forest Service, was established in 1902.

Under the Kineaid Act, the Forest Service distributed 2,000,000 young trees from the Federal nursery to 10,000 residents, in addition to the planting which was done on Government land in the Nebraska



F-334750

FIGURE 3.—A shady lane in Kansas. Many of the old groves whose establishment was stimulated by the Arbor Day movement still stand in testimony to successful planting, and their cooling shade tempts every passer-by.

National Forest. Now each year the national-forest plantations are the scene of festivities eulogizing the founder of Arbor Day. The success achieved in the plantings demonstrated that trees could be successfully grown, and stimulated planting in other sections of the State.

Under section 4 of the Clarke-McNary law of 1924, which superseded the Kineaid Act of 1904, the extension service of the Nebraska College of Agriculture now distributes tree-planting stock to farmers at low cost. This service started in 1926. Nebraska has been for years one of the leading States in the tree-planting program made possible by this act.

Kansas and Tennessee followed the lead of Nebraska in 1875, and the next year Minnesota fell into line. In Kansas the same comparatively treeless conditions as in Nebraska made the plan of immediate economic importance (fig. 3). In Minnesota the white

pine forests were being destroyed with alarming rapidity, and no provision was being made for replacing them. It was natural, therefore, that these States should be among the first to join the Arbor Day movement. Incidentally, it should be noted that the successful establishment in recent years of millions of trees in windbreaks of the Prairie States Forestry Project has been based in part upon experience gained in the successes and failures of the many early plantings stimulated by the Arbor Day movement (fig. 4).

After 1876 there was for some years a check in the spread of the Arbor Day idea, and it was not until 1882 that two more States began to celebrate the day—North Dakota and Ohio.

Before 1882 the efforts to extend the celebration of Arbor Day had been made through agricultural associations and town authorities. The first celebration of the day in Ohio, which was held during the



F-351040

FIGURE 4.—Arbor Day helped for many years to promote tree planting on the prairies and Plains. The success of thousands of shelterbelts planted to protect crops and livestock in this area in recent years by the Prairie States Forestry Project is based in part on the experience gained in the successes and failures of the earlier plantings.

sessions of a national-forestry convention at Cincinnati, took an entirely new form at the suggestion of Warren Higley, president of the Ohio Forestry Commission. Under the direction of Superintendent of Schools John B. Peaslee, the school children of the city had a prominent part in the celebration, which included a parade through the streets to Eden Park, where trees were planted in memory of distinguished men. About 20,000 children participated in the singing and reciting and in putting the soil about the trees, which had already been set in place. Two new elements were introduced into the Arbor Day plan on this occasion—the day was made a school festival and the practice of planting memorial trees and groves was inaugurated. These new developments were largely responsible for the extension of Arbor Day over the rest of the United States and beyond. Tree planting by school children became a festival combining pleasure, utility, and instruction; and one of the greatest benefits of the observance of Arbor

Day has been its effect in impressing upon the minds of the young people the value of trees and the necessity for conserving all the natural resources of the country (fig. 5).

The American Forestry Congress in 1883, at St. Paul, Minn., passed a resolution recommending the observance of Arbor Day in the schools of every State, and a committee was appointed to demonstrate to school authorities the value of Arbor Day celebrations. N. G. Northrop, of Connecticut, author of the resolution, was made chairman of this committee. At the annual meeting of the National Educational Association in 1884 he offered a resolution similar to that adopted at St. Paul. Although no action was taken then, the next



F-226811

FIGURE 5.—Water, as well as wood and other necessities of civilization, has its source in the forest. Bald River Falls, Cherokee National Forest, Tenn.

year the association adopted a resolution recommending the general observance of Arbor Day for schools in all States.

As a school festival the observance of Arbor Day has spread not only throughout the United States but also far beyond its borders. In 1887 the educational department of Ontario set aside the first Friday in May as a tree- and flower-planting day. In 1895 the plan was officially adopted in Spain. It reached Hawaii in 1905 and is now used in all the dependencies of the United States and in Great Britain, Canada, Australia, the English West Indies, South Africa, New Zealand, France, Norway, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Japan, and China.

To commemorate the golden anniversary of Arbor Day, April 22, 1922, President Harding issued a proclamation on March 31 of that year urging the Governors of the various States to designate and set apart the week of April 16-22, 1922, as forest-protection week, and the last day of that week, April 22, as the golden anniversary of Arbor Day and to request officers of public instruction, of counties, cities, and towns, and of civic and commercial organizations to unite in

thought and action for the preservation of our common heritage by planning such educational and instructive exercises as shall bring before the people the disastrous effects of the present waste by forest fires and the need of individual and collective effort to conserve the forests and increase our tree growth for ornament and for use.

The observance of Arbor Day has broadened in scope with increasing interest in the wise use of all our natural resources. Conservation groups, women's clubs, sportsmen's organizations, farmers, and civic groups, as well as schools, now take part in its observance. Instead of being limited to a short program in a day's activities, the Arbor Day festival may, as in California, usher in a whole week of programs devoted to conservation of forests, soils, fish, wildlife, parks, and recreation areas, fire-prevention activities, and other phases of resource use and management. In some places, as in one Wisconsin county, the Arbor Day celebration may be planned to mark the beginning of a forest-planting program that lasts through the entire season. It may be devoted, as was recently the case in an Iowa county, to local demonstrations of tree planting for soil-conservation purposes. In other communities, as in some New England towns, the day may be devoted to forest plantings on town or community forests. In still other localities the tree-planting activities of the CCC have in recent years served as the central theme around which the Arbor Day celebration has centered.

THE TIME OF ARBOR DAY

The time of the observance of Arbor Day varies greatly in different States and countries, being determined somewhat by climatic conditions. In many States it is combined with Bird Day. In general the date is early in the year in the South and is set further along toward summer in the more northern States. In some States it is in the fall, and in others two dates are set, one in the spring and the other in the fall (tables 1 and 2).

Thirty-eight of the States and Puerto Rico also have enacted laws for the observance of Arbor Day. In other States such a day is observed by proclamation of the Governor, authorization of the superintendent of education, or by other action.

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Arizona.....	1890	1912	<i>Arbor Day; proclamation; school exercises.</i> —In the counties of Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave, and Yavapai the Friday following the first day of April in each year, and in all other counties of the State, the first day of February in each year, shall be known as Arbor Day and shall be observed as a holiday. The Governor shall make proclamation thereof and recommend that the Arbor Day established be observed by the people of the State in the planting of trees, shrubs, and vines, in the promotion of forest and orchard growth and culture, in the adornment of public and private grounds, places and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall be in harmony with the character of the day. The authorities in every public school shall assemble the pupils in their charge on Arbor Day and provide for and conduct, under the general supervision of the State superintendent of public instruction, such exercises as tend to encourage the planting, protection, and preservation of trees and shrubs and an acquaintance with the best methods to be adopted to accomplish such results and shall cause trees to be planted around the school buildings with appropriate and attractive ceremonies.

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Arkansas.....	1906	1933	<p><i>Arbor Day.</i>—The first Saturday in December of each year is hereby declared Arbor Day.</p> <p><i>Fire prevention—Course in fire prevention authorized.</i>—The study of fire prevention is hereby included in the course of study in the primary grades of all public schools in the State of Arkansas, and definite instruction in said subjects shall be given to each pupil and student therein, and a period of not less than 20 minutes during each scholastic week shall be devoted to the study and consideration of said subject.</p> <p><i>Textbook commission to adopt books.</i>—The State Book Commission is hereby authorized and directed to adopt durably bound textbooks or readers to be used in the teaching and study of said subject.</p>
California.....	1886	1931	<p><i>Day schools shall observe.</i>—March seventh of each year, being the anniversary of the birthday of Luther Burbank is hereby set apart and designated conservation, bird, and arbor day. All public schools and educational institutions are directed to observe Conservation, Bird, and Arbor Day not as a holiday, but by including in the school work of the day suitable exercises having for their object instruction as to the economic value of birds and trees and the promotion of a spirit of protection toward them and as to the economic value of natural resources, and the desirability of their conservation.</p> <p><i>Forestry education.</i>—Boards of school trustees and city boards of education shall have power to, and may in their discretion: Conduct courses in forestry and for that purpose employ instructors and supervisors of classes and acquire necessary equipment;</p> <p>Acquire forest lands outside the boundary of the district by lease for a period not exceeding 5 years or purchase or sell such lands in the same manner as lands within the boundary of the district are purchased or sold;</p> <p>Afforest and reforest and plant trees, shrubs, and vines on such lands or upon any public lands which may be placed at their disposal and enter into contracts and agreements with the Government of the United States, the State, or any political subdivision thereof for such purpose;</p> <p>Transport pupils, instructors, or supervisors of classes to and from any such classes or places where such work is being done, whether within or without the district, in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as in transporting pupils to and from school.</p> <p><i>Fire prevention education.</i>—Under such limitations and restrictions as are prescribed by law, and in addition to jurisdiction and powers otherwise conferred, the boards of supervisors, in their respective counties, shall have the jurisdiction and powers to authorize and provide for the education or information of the public relative to the prevention of fires and to the conservation of natural resources and the presentation of information designed for the promotion thereof.</p>
Colorado.....	1885	1889	<p><i>Arbor Day—Tree planting.</i>—The third Friday in April of each year shall be set apart and known as Arbor Day to be observed by the people of this State in the planting of forest trees, for the benefit and adornment of public and private grounds, places, and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall be in harmony with the general character of the day so established; provided, that the actual planting of trees may be done on the day designated, or at such other most convenient time as may best conform to local climatic conditions, such other time to be designated, and due notice thereof given, by the several county superintendents of schools for their respective counties.</p> <p><i>Same—Holiday in public schools.</i>—The day, as above designated, shall be a holiday in all public schools of the State, and school officers and teachers are required to have the schools under their respective charge observe the day by planting of trees or other appropriate exercises.</p> <p><i>Same—Governor shall issue proclamation.</i>—Annually, at the proper season, the Governor shall issue a proclamation, calling the attention of the people to the provisions of the two preceding sections and recommending and enjoining their due observance. The superintendent of public instruction and the respective county superintendents of schools shall also promote, by all proper means, the observance of the day; and the said county superintendent of schools shall make annual reports to the State forest commissioner of the action taken in this behalf in their respective counties.</p>

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Connecticut.....	1886	1918	<i>Certain days to be proclaimed by the Governor.</i> —The Governor shall, annually, designate by official proclamation a day, on or about October ninth, to be known as Fire Prevention Day and in the spring designate a day to be known as Arbor and Bird Day, which days shall be observed in the schools and in such other way as shall be indicated in such proclamation.
Delaware.....	1901	1901	<i>Arbor and Bird Day.</i> —The Governor is authorized to set apart each year by proclamation one day to be designated as Arbor and Bird Day and to request its observance by all public schools, private schools, colleges, and other institutions by the planting of trees and the adornment of the school and public grounds and by suitable exercises having for their object the advancement of the study of arbor culture and promotion of the spirit of protection to birds and trees and the cultivation of an appreciative sentiment concerning them.
Georgia.....	1887	1929	<i>Observance of special days.</i> —The county and local boards of education shall see that the following days are observed either by holidays or appropriate exercises, and it shall be the duty of the State superintendent of schools to arrange programs for the proper observance of these occasions and of the superintendent and teachers to direct the attention of the pupils to these dates and topics by practical exercises. <i>Arbor and Bird Day, first Friday in December.</i> <i>Purposes of legislation.</i> —The purposes of this legislation are the lessening of crime and the raising of the standards of good citizenship and inculcating in the minds of the children a spirit of thrift, economy, and kindness by including in the curriculum of all public schools a course of training to teach, promote, and encourage the conservation and protection of birds, animals, fish, and any and all other forms of useful wildlife, and the forests.
Idaho.....	1886	1903	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —It shall be the duty of the county superintendent to set apart 1 day in the proper time in each year between the first day of April and the first day of May, to be known as Arbor Day. He shall, by written or printed notice, notify the clerk of each school district in his county of the day so set apart at least 20 days prior to said day. It shall be the duty of the authorities of every public school in this State to assemble the pupils in their charge on that day in the school building, or elsewhere, as they may deem proper, and to provide for and conduct, under the general supervision of the county superintendent of public instruction, such exercise as shall tend to encourage the planting, protection, and preservation of trees and shrubs, and an acquaintance with the best methods to be adopted to accomplish such results. The State superintendent of public instruction shall have power to prescribe, from time to time, in writing, a course of exercises and instruction in the subjects hereinbefore mentioned, which shall be adopted and observed by the school authorities on Arbor Day, and upon receipt of copies of such course, sufficient in number to supply all the schools under his supervision, the county superintendent of public instruction shall promptly provide each of the schools under his charge with a copy and cause it to be adopted and observed.
Illinois.....	1887	1909	<i>Governor to designate an Arbor Day for planting trees.</i> —Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly; That the Governor shall annually, in the spring, designate, by official proclamation, a day to be designated as Arbor Day, to be observed throughout the State as a day for planting trees, shrubs, and vines about the homes and along highways, and about public grounds within this State, thus contributing to the wealth, comforts, and attractions of our State. <i>Arbor and Bird Day.</i> —The Governor shall, annually, in the spring, designate by official proclamation, a day or days to be known as Arbor and Bird Day, to be observed throughout the State as a day for planting trees, shrubs, and vines about the homes and along highways and about public grounds within this State and as a day on which to hold appropriate exercises in the public schools and elsewhere tending to show the value of trees and birds and the necessity for their protection.

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Indiana.....	1884	1913	<p><i>Arbor Day, Governor to proclaim.</i>—The Governor shall annually, in the spring, designate by official proclamation, a day to be designated as Arbor Day, to be observed throughout the State as a day for planting trees, shrubs, and vines about the homes and along highways and about public grounds within this State, thus contributing to the wealth, comfort, and attraction of our State.</p> <p><i>Arbor Day—Second Friday in April designated day for observance.</i>—For the purpose of encouraging the planting of shade and forest trees, shrubs, and vines, the second Friday of April in each year is hereby designated as a day for general observance to be known as Arbor Day.</p> <p><i>School exercises.</i>—Appropriate exercises shall be introduced in all the schools of the State; and it shall be the duty of the several county and city superintendents to prepare a program of exercises for that day to be observed in all the schools under their respective jurisdictions. The exercises on Arbor Day shall give due honor to the conservers of forestry and the founders of the study and conservation of Indiana forestry and especially to the leading spirit of Indiana forestry conservation, Charles Warren Fairbanks.</p>
Kentucky.....	1886	1885-86	<p>Whereas, the state of the forests is so intimately connected with the most important interests of the country, with the health and comfort of the people, with the water supply, and consequently with the condition of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, that it should be one of the foremost subjects of consideration by any people and by any government; and whereas, we deem it beneficial to encourage the preservation of our forests and the planting of trees in school grounds, parks, groves, and other places; therefore, be it</p> <p>Resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:</p> <p>That the Governor be, and is hereby requested to call the attention of the people of this State to the importance of planting trees for ornament, protection, and shade, by naming a day upon which this work shall be given special prominence, to be known and designated as Arbor Day.</p>
Louisiana.....	1888	1922	<p><i>Public schools—Forestry instruction—Arbor Day.</i>—The State and parish boards of public education are directed to provide for proper courses of instruction by textbooks or lectures on the general subject of forestry in all the public schools of this State; and they are further directed to provide for the celebration of Arbor Day by all public schools, on which day ornamental and shade trees, flowers, etc., are to be placed, where practicable, on the grounds surrounding all public schoolhouses.</p>
Maine.....	1887		<p><i>Arbor Day.</i>—The Governor shall annually set apart a day in the spring as Arbor Day, and shall issue a proclamation recommending that it be observed by the people of the State in the planting of trees, shrubs, and vines, in the adornment of public and private grounds, places, and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall be in harmony with the general character of a day so established.</p> <p><i>School holidays.</i>—The following days shall be observed as school holidays, namely: Patriot's Day, April 19; Memorial Day, May 30; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, 1st Monday in September; Armistice Day, November 11; Christmas Day, December 25; Thanksgiving and Arbor Day, as appointed by the Governor and council: Provided, however, that Arbor Day shall not be recognized as a school holiday unless observed by teacher and pupils for the purpose for which it is designated by the governor and council.</p>
Maryland.....	1884	1929	<p><i>Holidays.</i>—The months of July and August shall be vacation throughout the whole State, and the following days shall be holidays, viz: * * * Arbor Day shall be observed at such a time and in such manner as the State Board of Education may direct.</p>
Massachusetts.....	1886	1917	<p><i>Observance of Arbor and Bird Day.</i>—The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the last Saturday in April as Arbor and Bird Day, recommending its observance by the public in the planting of trees, shrubs, and vines, particularly those attractive to birds, in the promotion of forest growth and culture, in the adornment of public and private grounds, places, and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall harmonize with the general character of the day. He shall further recommend that the Friday preceding be observed in rural and suburban schools by exercise appropriate to Arbor and Bird Day.</p>

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Michigan.....	1885	1885	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —Resolved (the house concurring), That the Governor is hereby requested to call the attention of the people of this State to the importance of planting trees for ornament and shade by naming a day upon which this work shall be given special attention, to be known as Arbor Day.
Mississippi.....	1890	1924	<i>Bird, Flower, and Arbor Day.</i> —The first Friday in February of each year is hereby set apart as Bird, Flower, and Arbor Day. The board of education shall require the principal teacher of every public school of the State to give such appropriate exercises as will create a better understanding of nature and the importance of protecting wildlife, planting and cultivating flowers, and setting and protecting trees. Thirty days before this date a general program shall be prepared by the State superintendent of education and the State forester which shall be printed and distributed by the State superintendent of education. Civic societies and municipal and county officers may be invited to take part in these exercises.
Missouri.....	1886	1886	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —The first Friday after the first Tuesday in April of each year is hereby set apart as Arbor Day for this State, and all teachers, pupils, and patrons are requested to observe the same in their respective school districts by encouraging the planting of trees, shrubbery, and flowers upon and around the school grounds of their districts, that said grounds may be rendered pleasant and attractive—a part of said day to be devoted to literary exercises, having special reference to the work in hand, as the teacher or committee in charge may direct, and the afternoon to be devoted to the improvement and ornamentation of the school grounds.
Montana.....	1888	1907	<i>Arbor Day proclamation.</i> —For the purpose of advancing the interests of tree planting and arboriculture in this State, the second Tuesday in May is hereby designated as Arbor Day, and it is the duty of the Governor to annually make his proclamation setting apart that day for the planting of trees and for beautifying homes, cemeteries, highways, public grounds, and landscapes, and the teachers in the public schools must on that day instruct the pupils as to the importance of tree planting and give practical lessons in landscape gardening.
Nebraska.....	1872	1921	<i>Holidays enumerated.</i> —The following days, viz: * * * Fourth. The twenty-second day of April, known as Arbor Day; * * *. But if said days herein be the first day of the week, known as Sunday, the next succeeding secular or business day shall be a holiday. "Tree Planters' State" A joint resolution to designate Nebraska, in a popular sense "The Tree Planters' State." Whereas, the State of Nebraska has heretofore, in a popular sense, been designated by names not in harmony with its history, industry, or ambition; and whereas, the State of Nebraska is preeminently a tree planting State; and Whereas, numerous, worthy, and honorable State organizations have by resolution designated Nebraska as the "Tree Planters' State." Therefore, <i>Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska:</i> That Nebraska shall hereafter, in a popular sense, be known and referred to as the "Tree Planters' State."
Nevada.....	1887	1911	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —Arbor Day is hereby established in the State of Nevada, and shall be fixed each year by proclamation of the Governor at least 1 month before the fixing of such date, and it shall be observed as a holiday by the public schools of this State; provided, that nothing in this act shall be so construed as making this a legal holiday, so far as the courts and civil contracts are concerned. <i>Governor to make proclamation of.</i> —His Excellency the Governor is requested to make proclamation setting forth the provisions of the preceding section of this statute and recommending that Arbor Day so established be observed by the people of the State in the planting of trees, shrubs, and vines, in the promotion of forest growth and culture, in the adornment of public and private grounds, places, and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall be in harmony with the character of the day so established.

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Nevada.....	1887	1911	All schools shall be kept open and shall observe with appropriate exercises the twelfth day of February, the twenty-second day of February, Arbor Day, the thirty-first day of October, and the eleventh day of November of each year; or, if these days do not occur on regular school days, then such exercises shall be held on the school day nearest these days, respectively: Provided, that this shall not be construed so as to interfere with the participation by the schools in community exercises held in the observance of such days.
New Hampshire.....		1885	That the Governor, with advice and consent of the council, be requested to appoint a day annually by proclamation to be designated as Arbor Day to be observed throughout the State as a day for planting trees, shrubs, and vines about the homes and along highways, and about the public grounds of the State, thus contributing to the wealth, comforts, and attractions of our commonwealth.
New Jersey.....	1884	1912	<i>Designation of Arbor Day.</i> —For the purpose of encouraging the planting of shade and forest trees, the second Friday in April in each year is hereby designated as a day for the general observance of that purpose, and shall be known as Arbor Day. <i>Issuance of circulars on Arbor Day by commissioner.</i> —The commissioner of education from time to time, shall prepare and issue to schools such circulars of information, advice, and instructions with reference to Arbor Day as he may deem necessary. <i>Suitable observance of Arbor Day by exercises in schools.</i> —Appropriate exercises for the observance of Arbor Day shall be held in all of the public schools, and the several county and city superintendents shall prepare a program of exercises for the schools in their respective jurisdictions.
New Mexico.....	1890	1891	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —The second Friday in March of each year shall be set apart and known as Arbor Day, to be observed by the people of this State in the planting of forest trees for the benefit and adornment of public and private grounds, places, and ways, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall be in harmony with the general character of the day so established: Provided, that the actual planting of trees may be done on the day designated or at such other most convenient times as may best conform to local climatic conditions, such other time to be designated and due notice thereof given by the several county superintendents of schools for their respective counties. The day as above designated shall be a holiday in all public schools of the State, and school officers and teachers are required to have the schools, under their respective charge, observe the day by planting of trees or other appropriate exercises. Annually, at the proper season, the Governor shall issue a proclamation, calling the attention of the people to the provisions of this section and recommending and enjoining its due observance. The respective county superintendents of schools shall also promote by all proper means the observance of the day, and the said county superintendents of schools shall make annual reports to the Governor of the State of the action taken in this behalf in their respective counties.
New York.....	1889	1916	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —The commissioner of education shall designate by proclamation, annually, the day to be observed as Arbor Day. <i>Manner of observance.</i> —It shall be the duty of the authorities of every public school in this State to assemble the pupils in their charge on that day in the school building, or elsewhere, as they may deem proper, and to provide for and conduct, under the general supervision of the city superintendent or the school commissioner, or other chief officers having the general oversight of the public schools in each city or district, such exercises as shall tend to encourage the planting, protection, and preservation of trees and shrubs, and an acquaintance with the best methods to be adopted to accomplish such results.
North Carolina.....	1893	1927	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —Friday following the fifteenth day of March of each year shall be known as Arbor Day, to be appropriately observed by the public schools of the State. The superintendent of public instruction shall issue each year a program for its observance by the school children of the State in order that they may be taught to appreciate the true value of trees and forests to their State. The superintendent of public instruction is authorized to provide a suitable program and plan of instruction to county school officials under his charge for the appropriate observance of this day.

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Ohio.....	1892	1902	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —Not later than April the Governor of the State shall appoint and set apart 1 day in the spring season of each year as a day on which those in charge of the public schools and institutions of learning under State control, or State patronage, for at least 2 hours must give information to the pupils and students concerning the value and interest of forests, the duty of the public to protect the birds thereof, and also for planting forest trees. Such day shall be known as Arbor Day. <i>Publication and distribution of Arbor Day manual.</i> —The superintendent of public instruction shall issue each year a manual for Arbor Day exercises. The manual shall contain matters relating to forestry and birds, including a copy of such laws relating to the protection of song and insectivorous birds as he deems proper. He shall transmit copies of the manual to the superintendents of city, village, and rural schools and to the clerks of boards of education, who shall cause them to be distributed among the teachers of the schools under their charge. On Arbor Day, and other days when convenient, the teachers shall cause such laws to be read to the scholars of their respective schools and shall encourage them to aid in the protection of such birds.
Oklahoma.....	1898	1913	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —The Friday following the second Monday in March of each year shall be hereafter known throughout Oklahoma as Arbor Day. <i>Arbor Day exercises required.</i> —It shall be the duty of the authorities of the public schools in this State, to assemble the pupils in their charge on Arbor Day in the school buildings, or elsewhere, as may be deemed proper, to provide for the conduct, under the general supervision of the county superintendent of public instruction, or city superintendent or other chief officers having the general oversight of the public schools in each county or city, such exercises as shall tend to encourage the planting, protection, and preservation of the trees and shrubs and an acquaintance with the best methods to be adopted to accomplish such results.
Oregon.....	1889	1917	<i>Arbor Day exercises—Forestry.</i> —The second Friday in the afternoon in April of each year in all counties east of the Cascade Mountains, and on the second Friday in February of each year in all counties west of the Cascade Mountains, shall hereafter be known throughout this State as Arbor Day. In order that the children in our public schools shall assist in the work of adorning the school grounds with trees and to stimulate the minds of children toward the growing of timber, it shall be the duty of the authorities in every public school district in this State to assemble the pupils in their charge on the above day in the school building, or elsewhere as they may deem proper, and to provide for and conduct under the general supervision of city superintendents, county superintendents, teachers, and directors, or other school authorities having the general charge and oversight of the public schools in each city or district, to have and hold such exercises as shall tend to encourage the planting, protection, and preservation of trees and shrubs and an acquaintance with the best methods to be adopted to accomplish such results.
Pennsylvania.....	1885	1885	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —The Governor of this commonwealth be requested to appoint a day to be designated as Arbor Day in Pennsylvania and to recommend, by proclamation to the people, on the day named, the planting of trees and shrubbery in public school grounds and along public highways throughout the State.
Puerto Rico.....		1904	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —The Friday immediately following the last Thursday in November in each year shall be known throughout the Island as Arbor Day and shall be a holiday in all of the public schools in charge of the commissioner of education. It shall be the duty of the said commissioner to cause the scholars in every public school in the Island to be assembled in the school building, or elsewhere, as he may deem proper, and to provide for and to conduct, under the general supervision of the local school board, or other chief officers having the general oversight of the public schools in each municipality or district, such exercises as shall tend to encourage the planting, protection, and preservation of trees and shrubs and an acquaintance with the best methods to be adopted to accomplish such results.

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Rhode Island.....	1887	1936	<i>Days to be observed by schools.</i> —The twelfth day of February (as Grand Army Flag Day, in honor of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln), the fourth day of May (as Rhode Island Independence Day and as Arbor Day), and each of said days in every year, or when any of such days shall fall on Saturday then the preceding, or on Sunday then the day following, shall be specially observed with appropriate exercises in all the schools of this State; and it shall be the duty of teachers and school officers to make suitable provisions for the proper observance of said days.
South Carolina.....	1898	1935	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina: That the third Friday in February is set apart as Arbor Day in South Carolina, and that as a part of the observance of Arbor Day in this State the officials, teachers, supervisors, principals, and superintendents of the public schools are hereby directed to observe the said third Friday in February as South Carolina Arbor Day with appropriate ceremonies, including the planting of trees on school property in this State, and that all civic, patriotic, and fraternal organizations are requested to lend their assistance in the observance of this day in an appropriate manner.
Tennessee.....	1875	1925	<i>First Friday in April—Bird, Flower, and Arbor Day: Appropriate exercises.</i> —The first Friday in the month of April of every year is set apart as Bird, Flower, and Arbor Day, and it shall be the duty of the principal teacher of every public school to give such appropriate exercise as will create a better understanding of nature and the importance of protecting wildlife, planting and cultivating flowers, and setting and protecting trees. <i>General program prepared, when and by whom.</i> —In the month of January of each year, a general program shall be prepared by the commissioner of education, the commissioner of agriculture, the game warden, the State forester and the State geologist, which shall be printed and distributed by the commissioner of education and the commissioner of agriculture. <i>Who shall be invited; planting of trees and flowers, when.</i> —Civic societies and municipal officers as well as county officers shall be invited to take part in these exercises; provided, that the planting of trees and flowers shall be made at the time of the year, according to the season, most suitable for this work.
Texas.....	1890	1935	<i>Texas conservation and beautification week.</i> —Resolved, by the Senate of the State of Texas, the House of Representatives concurring, that Texas Conservation and Beautification Week be observed each year at that time which shall include April twenty-first, San Jacinto Day, and April twenty-fourth, National Wildflower Day, said week beginning two days before the twenty-first of April and ending two days after April twenty-fourth, and that said week shall be observed so that it contributes to the conservation and beautification of the State and to the happiness and lasting benefit of its people, thus making known, enforcing, and teaching respect for the written and unwritten conservation laws of our country, thus showing our respect and appreciation for all that is ours to cherish while we live and should preserve for posterity here where "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth His handiwork."
Utah.....		1931	<i>Holidays enumerated.</i> —The following named days are legal holidays in this State: * * * a day between March 1 and April 15, to be designated each year by the Governor by proclamation as Arbor Day; * * * provided, that when any of said days, except the first mentioned, shall fall on Sunday, the following Monday shall be the holiday.
Virginia.....	1892	1938	<i>Forestry education in schools.</i> —Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia. That the second Friday in March of each year shall be designated and known as Arbor Day.
Wisconsin.....	1892	1937	<i>Holiday proclamation.</i> —The Governor, by proclamation, may set apart one day each year to be designated as Arbor and Bird Day and may request its observance by all schools, colleges, and other institutions by the planting of trees, the adornment of school and public grounds, and by suitable exercises having for their object the advancement of the study of arboriculture, the promotion of a spirit of protection to birds and trees, and the cultivation of an appreciative sentiment concerning them. * * *

TABLE 1.—*Time of Arbor Day observance and related provisions of various State laws—Continued*

State or territory	First observed	Latest law enacted	General provisions of the laws
Wyoming.....	-----	1929	<i>Arbor Day.</i> —The Governor shall annually, in the spring, designate by official proclamation, an Arbor Day, to be observed by the schools and for economic tree planting. <i>Legal holidays.</i> —* * * all days upon which general elections are held and Arbor Day, are hereby declared legal holidays in and for the State of Wyoming * * * Provided, that on the twelfth day of February, the twenty-second day of February, the eleventh day of November, all days upon which general elections are held, and Arbor Day, or the Monday following if any of them fall upon a Sunday, the public schools of any district shall not be dismissed except by order of the board of trustees of said district, but proper exercises shall be held in the schools on these respective days to emphasize their significance and importance.

TABLE 2.—*States observing Arbor Day by authority other than of the State legislature*

State and territory	First observed	Authority and date of observance
Alabama.....	1887	Governor issues a proclamation each year, usually first or second Friday in December.
District of Columbia..	1920	By proclamation of the commissioners, third Friday in April.
Florida.....	1886	Designated by State board of education, first Friday in February.
Hawaii.....	1905	By proclamation of the Governor, in November, before the winter rains.
Iowa.....	1887	By proclamation of the Governor, usually in April.
Kansas.....	1875	By option of the Governor.
Minnesota.....	-----	Designated by State department of conservation.
North Dakota.....	-----	By proclamation of Governor, usually in spring.
South Dakota.....	1890	By proclamation of Governor, usually in April.
Vermont.....	1885	By proclamation of Governor, late April or early May.
Washington.....	1894	By proclamation of the Governor, usually April or early May.
West Virginia.....	1883	Date of observance at option of schools, usually in the spring.

ARBOR DAY AND FOREST CONSERVATION

The most significant Arbor Day tree, the one that means most to the Nation, the State, and the community, is the tree of the forest. Man's progress is greatly dependent upon use of the trees of the forests.

Arbor Day offers an opportunity for taking stock of our forest resources, a time for a sort of forest inventory. Such an inventory will indicate not only the tremendous task of rehabilitating millions of idle acres through replanting but also of so handling our remaining forests that they will continue indefinitely to contribute to the individual welfare of forest workers and thus to the permanent prosperity of forest communities and of the Nation.

Forests in this country have not always been managed in the public interest. In the past this Nation's forest wealth has been subjected to exploitation and devastation on a gigantic scale. Millions of acres of natural forest lands have been converted to wastelands by destructive cutting and fire (fig. 6). These millions of acres represent the huge problem of forest restoration now facing the country.

Arbor Day has always been closely associated with the conservation movement. Conservation means wise use. Wise use of our forest resources must embrace not only the replanting of idle lands but also a system of timber cropping by selective cutting at successive intervals, leaving of seed trees or strips of timber to reforest the cut-over lands,

protection of young growth, and other practices that will insure new forests for future use. That such methods are feasible has been demonstrated not only on public forests but also on millions of acres of lands owned and managed for forestry purposes by private operators. The observance of Arbor Day may well contribute to a better understanding of the objectives of forest management and of the Nation's forest problems.

President Theodore Roosevelt, in an Arbor Day letter to the school children of the United States, laid particular stress on that side of



F-354926

FIGURE 6.—Directly and indirectly human activities cause many of our most devastating forest fires. When forests burn, everyone loses. Consideration of causes and prevention of forest fires may well be a part of the Arbor Day exercises.

the Arbor Day festival which teaches the necessity for careful use and perpetuation of our natural resources.

For the Nation, as for the man or woman or boy or girl, the road to success is the right use of what we have and the improvement of present opportunity. If you neglect to prepare yourself now for the duties and responsibilities which will fall upon you later, if you do not learn the things which you will need to know when your school days are over, you will suffer the consequences. So any Nation which in its youth lives only for the day, reaps without sowing, and consumes without husbanding, must expect the penalty of the prodigal whose labor could with difficulty find him the bare means of life.

A people without children would face a hopeless future; a country without trees is almost as helpless; forests which are so used that they cannot renew themselves will soon vanish, and with them all their benefits. A true forest is not merely a storehouse full of wood, but, as it were, a factory of wood and at the same time a reservoir of water. When you help to preserve our forests or plant new ones, you are acting the part of good citizens.

TREE PLANTING IN PUBLIC FORESTS

Arbor Day is a tree-planting day. Because of the importance of the forest tree to our individual and public welfare, it is natural that in many communities the day's activities should be marked by interest in the tree-planting programs on public forests or in actual tree-planting operations on them.

Of our public forests the national forests contain the greatest amount of land. There are 161 of these forests having a combined area of about 176 million acres in 36 States, Alaska, and Puerto Rico. This area is, however, only a fraction of our total forest



F-320985

FIGURE 7.—Tree planting on national forests is a big undertaking requiring millions of seedlings annually. In this one nursery, with a capacity of 3,250,000 seedlings annually, trees for planting in the national forests of Oregon and Washington are produced.

lands. In addition to the national forests proper, there are a number of Federal purchase units within which lands are being acquired by the Government. The national forests are managed for "sustained yield" or continuous production of timber and other products or human benefits. In their management the multiple-use principle is operative, the same lands producing several products or services at the same time, each resource being developed according to its relative importance.

Public forests are also owned and managed by 39 of the States. Generally the State forests are smaller in area than those owned by the Federal Government, a recent survey showing some 732 State units comprising approximately 13,500,000 acres. Among the States having the largest acreages in State-owned forests are Minnesota, with more than 5,000,000 acres; New York, with more than 2,000,000 acres; Michigan and Pennsylvania, each with more than a million acres.

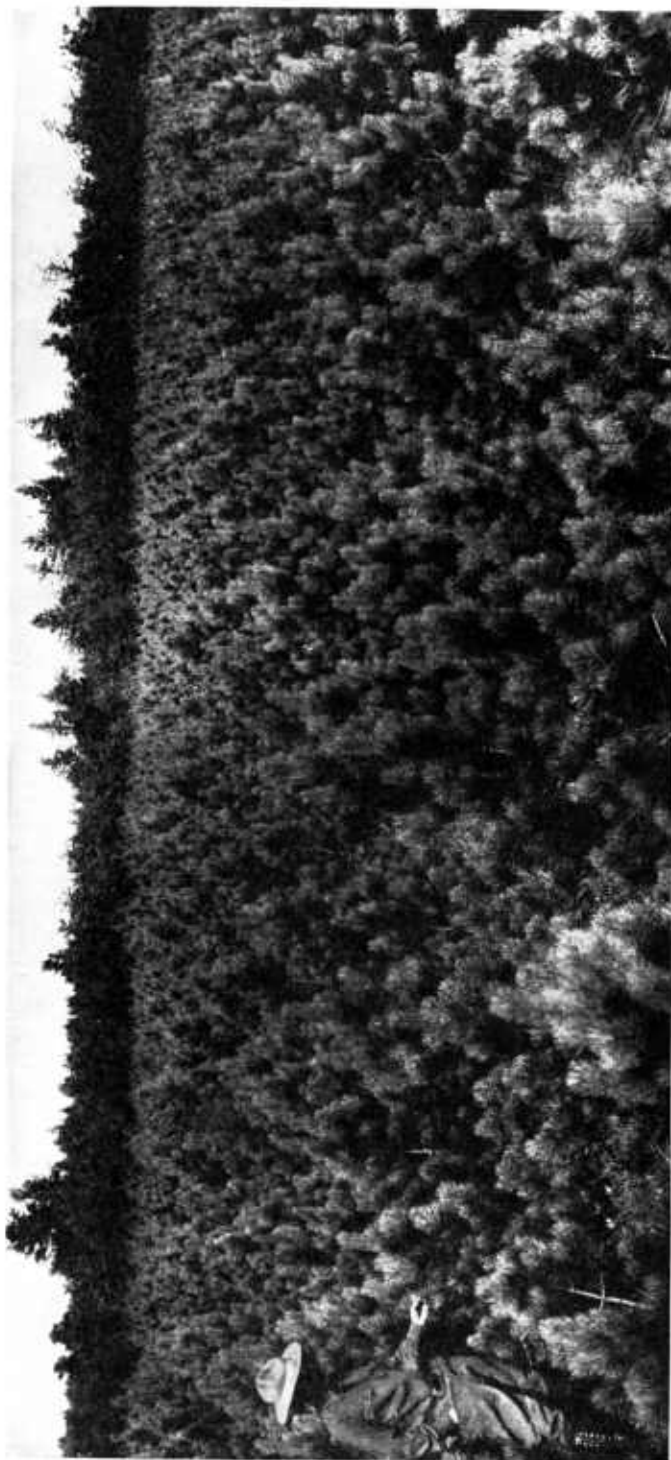
In recent years reforestation on all forest lands has been greatly accelerated. Large-scale plantings by the Forest Service and other public agencies, including the States and local governments, are restoring millions of acres of denuded lands to tree growth which will check erosion and regulate the flow of streams, as well as supply crops of timber and other forest products (figs. 7, 8, and 9). The Forest Service through the year 1938 had planted a total of 1,082,348 acres, resulting in approximately 613,000 acres of successful planta-



F-349920

FIGURE 8.—National-forest planting crew at work in an old burned-over area. Only by replanting can such devastated areas again be restored to productivity.

tions; and States and local public agencies had planted some 921,000 acres resulting in 686,000 acres of successful plantations. Of this latter total 514,000 acres were on State forests. The work of the Prairie States Forestry Project of the Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and other Federal agencies adds greatly to the total of the public plantings. Industrial organizations, schools, colleges, and individual timberland owners had planted more than 2,000,000 acres to the end of 1938. The forest needs of the country and the acreage of denuded lands are so



F-243295

FIGURE 9.—Forest plantation on the Huron National Forest, in Michigan, one of many such reforestation projects of the United States Forest Service.

great, however, that tree planting by all groups must continue on a large scale if the Nation's forest area is to make its proper contribution to the national welfare.

As areas of public use and enjoyment have increased in number, the municipal or town forest has become more and more a part of community development in many sections of the country. In some communities tree planting in these forests is closely associated with the Arbor Day program. Such properties are owned and managed by villages, cities, towns, school districts, townships, counties, or other subdivisions, or by such quasi-public enterprises as hospitals and



F-363754

FIGURE 10.—No better use could be made of Arbor Day than to direct it toward establishing a community forest such as this one. The conifer plantation shown is 16 years old.

churches, or by such organizations as the Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls. Locally they may be known by various names.

Such local public forests are acquired by purchase, by reversion of tax-delinquent lands, or by gift of lands or of funds with which to purchase lands. Often they are started by some public-spirited citizens or group who want to make the community a finer, happier, and better place in which to live for both present and future generations.

The objective in the creation and administration of the community forests may be to produce income from the sale of timber; to provide employment and generally improve the prosperity and well-being of the city, town, and county; to protect reservoirs and watersheds; to provide game reserves or bird sanctuaries, public playgrounds, or tourist camps; to supply fuel or other forest products for relief pur-

poses; to serve as a memorial to some outstanding citizen; or other similar purposes.

No better use could be made of the Arbor Day idea than to direct it toward the establishment and management of a community forest. The community that does so is not only setting up a school of the woods for its citizens, but with good management may also find itself in possession of a property of definite and lasting benefit to all the citizens of the community (fig. 10).

TREE PLANTING FOR WATERSHED PROTECTION

Forests are of immense importance in conserving and controlling the water needed for domestic and community uses, for irrigating



F-254523

FIGURE 11.—A plantation of white pines on a watershed in York County, Pa.

farm lands, for generating electric power, and for regulating and maintaining the flow of navigable streams (fig. 11).

Wherever there are no forests on the hills and mountains the rain and melted snow rush off in torrents, digging out great gullies and carrying away the fertile soil. Where there is a forest the trees protect the soil from the beating of the rain and the rush of snow water; the water soaks deep into the ground to be stored up there and gradually fed out by springs all the year round; the leaf litter absorbs and holds the water like a sponge; the trunks and roots prevent the rapid run-off of water and bind the soil together. Thus the forest is of tremendous benefit in preventing both floods and drought; and it is imperative that the watersheds of navigable streams and those upon which towns, cities, irrigation projects, and water-power plants depend

for their supply should be forested. In a number of the States the areas surrounding municipal and private reservoirs are systematically planted by their owners with forest trees for the protection of the water supply.

It is estimated that one-half of all the forests of the United States owned by towns and cities have been acquired and developed primarily for the purpose of protecting the sources of municipal water supplies (fig. 12). In New York, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts, State assistance has been given such local civic projects by donation of a nominal amount of tree planting on the projects designated for watershed protection or timber production. New York City has planted millions of trees on its Ashokan, Croton, and Gilboa watersheds. Massachusetts has planted thousands of trees on the 75 watershed forests in that State. In Pennsylvania there are many private water companies, such as that at York, which have made



FIGURE 12.—Watershed forest at Reading, Pa., on the shores of Antietam Lake. Girls from the Reading high school started the planting shown, on the east slope of the lake, with 5,000 trees in 1915. The following year 770 pupils from the girls' high school and 220 Boy Scouts planted 50,000 white pines.

extensive plantations (fig. 11). Iowa's first municipal or community forest has been started at Corydon, where planting is being done on lands adjacent to the city reservoir. Newnan and Manchester, Ga., have community forests, the primary purpose of which is watershed sanitation and protection. Canton, N. C., owns a municipal watershed which has been kept in tree growth by the pupils of the high school, using seedlings from the nurseries of a local paper and fibre company, the first plantings having been made in 1926. The city of Seattle, Wash., has acquired extensive holdings of forest land in the Cedar River watershed, the source of its municipal water supply, and has the greater part of it under forest management to develop and maintain a watershed-protection forest. These are only a few examples of the many watershed forests in this country.

PLANTING TREES ALONG STREETS AND HIGHWAYS

The attractiveness of many of our cities in large measure is a result of the trees planted along their streets. The aesthetic advantages of roadside trees are obvious; a barren highway in the country is unat-



F-305688

FIGURE 13.—Bridal Elm, Wethersfield, Conn. In colonial days it was the custom for the bride-to-be to bring a tree from her father's home grounds and to plant it near her new home. Sarah Saltonstall came from New London to marry Daniel Buck at a time when the Connecticut River was frozen over, and she was unable to bring her tree with her. The next spring an old Indian brought her the sapling which has grown into this noble tree, still standing where it was planted, shading the house where the Bucks lived in 1775. (Courtesy Katherine Matthies, New Haven, Conn.)

tractive and uncomfortable; one planted to trees has the double attractiveness of beauty and shade.

Although Arbor Day has often been the inspiration that led to the adoption of a plan of street or road planting, the best results from such a plan are obtained when it is carried out by some stable organization. This insures not only proper care but also better coordination of effort and especially steady progress from year to year. For

city streets the actual planting is now usually in charge of a shade-tree commission, park board, or other officials, who see that trees suitable to the width and other characteristics of the particular street are planted and that the planting is uniform as regards species and the arrangement. On the highways, as in the city streets, planting plans must be in harmony with laws, regulations, and construction plans for the roadway, and the authorities in charge of these matters must be consulted before decisions can be reached as to what stretches of roadway are to be planted, the species to be planted, spacing, and other particulars (fig. 13).

Several of the States have enacted legislation authorizing roadside planting by the State agencies. Motor associations and others have



F-226398

FIGURE 14.—Famous "Avenue of Live Oaks" in Audubon Park, New Orleans, La.

encouraged the planting of roadside trees. The General Federation of Women's Clubs has a plan of work for the "protection of roadside beauty and highway and memorial tree planting," which recommends the planting of memorial trees as "roads of remembrance" for individuals whom it is desired to honor, as memorials to organizations, as markers for historical sites, and as living Christmas trees (fig. 14). This plan of work recommends the observance of Arbor Day by State-wide tree planting on highway, school, hospital, park, and church grounds. Also it urges the beautification of rural homes along State and national highways and the safeguarding of the beauty of natural scenery. Where highways are of the proper width, it suggests following the plans of the State highway department, with particular attention to the planting of indigenous trees, shrubs, and flowers, and to the development of triangles formed by the dividing of two

or more roads, and of small wayside parks planted with trees and provided with seats in the shade of the trees.

Interest in street and highway planting continues to increase, along with interest in forestry and the conservation of our timber supplies. Roadside tree planting has been made the subject of a publication issued by the Department of Agriculture, Farmers' Bulletin 1482, *Trees for Roadside Planting*. This bulletin deals with the general principles of roadside-planting plans and the selection of species. It can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for 5 cents.

FOREST PLANTING ON FARMS

By means of planting small forest trees on unused or badly washing farm land the owners can bring their lands back to production. This



F-360981

FIGURE 15.—Planted in the "tree-claim" days, the cottonwood grove in the background on this Nebraska farm now provides an ample supply of fuel as well as winter protection and shade in the summer for the poultry houses and other buildings.

is a good way of putting land to work, thereby increasing the value of the land and later making it bring in a money return.

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized by the Clarke-McNary forestry law to cooperate with the various States in producing and distributing forest-tree seeds and plants for the purpose of establishing windbreaks, shelterbelts, and farm woodlands upon denuded and nonforested lands within such cooperating States. Prior to the enactment of this law in 1924 only a few of the States had extended assistance to landowners and particularly farmers in reforesting cut-over lands and establishing and improving woodlands. Low-priced planting stock such as is essential in farm planting was not, however, generally available throughout the country.

The passage of the Clark-McNary law has materially stimulated efforts of the States to supply the types of planting stock best suited to farm planting and in quantities sufficient to meet the constantly growing demand (fig. 15). Many million young trees are annually distributed to farmers from the State nurseries. Table 3 indicates the cooperating States and the names and addresses of the agencies to which application for young trees to be used in farm planting may be made.

TABLE 3.—*State departments administering the cooperative program of distributing forest planting stock under the Clarke-McNary Law*

State	Agency in charge of cooperative tree distribution	Name and mail address of State officer in charge
Alabama.....	Department of Conservation Division of Forestry.	State Forester, 5 North Bainbridge St., Montgomery, Ala.
Arkansas.....	Arkansas State Forestry Commission.	State Forester, 403 West Capitol Ave., Little Rock, Ark.
Colorado.....	State Board of Forestry.....	State Forester, Colorado State College, Fort Collins, Colo.
Connecticut.....	Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.	Director, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, Conn.
Delaware.....	State Forestry Commission.....	State Forester, State House, Dover, Del.
Florida.....	Florida Forest and Park Service.....	State Forester and Park Executive, P. O. Box 1200, Tallahassee, Fla.
Georgia.....	Dept. of Natural Resources Division of Forestry.	Director, Division of Forestry, 435 State Capitol, Atlanta, Ga.
Hawaii.....	Board of Commissioners of Agriculture and Forestry.	Territorial Forester, P. O. Box 641, Honolulu, T. H.
Idaho.....	State Board of Land Commissioners.	Dean, School of Forestry, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho.
Illinois.....	Department of Conservation, Division of Forestry.	State Forester, Springfield, Ill.
Indiana.....	Department of Conservation, Division of Forestry.	State Forester, Indianapolis, Ind.
Iowa.....	Forestry Department, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.
Kansas.....	Kansas State College, Division of Forestry.	Superintendent, Fort Hays Experiment Station, Hays, Kans.
Kentucky.....	Conservation Department.....	Director, Division of Forestry, Frankfort, Ky.
Louisiana.....	Department of Conservation, Division of Forestry.	Forester and Director, 126 New Orleans Court Building, New Orleans, La.
Maine.....	Maine Forest Service.....	Forest Commissioner, Augusta, Maine.
Maryland.....	State Department of Forestry.....	State Forester, 1411 Fidelity Bldg., Baltimore, Md.
Massachusetts.....	Department of Conservation, Division of Forestry.	Commissioner of Conservation, 20 Somerset St., Boston, Mass.
Michigan.....	State College of Agriculture.....	Department of Forestry, State College of Agriculture, East Lansing, Mich.
Mississippi.....	Mississippi Forest and Park Service.	State Forester, 406 Merchants Bank Bldg., Jackson, Miss.
Missouri.....	Missouri Conservation Commission.	State Forester, Jefferson City, Mo.
Montana.....	State Forest Department.....	State Forester, Missoula, Mont.
Nebraska.....	Extension Forester, 212 Agricultural Bldg., College of Agriculture, Lincoln, Nebr.
New Hampshire.....	Forestry and Recreation Department.	State Forester, Concord, N. H.

TABLE 3.—*State departments administering the cooperative program of distributing forest planting stock under the Clarke-McNary Law—Continued*

State	Agency in charge of cooperative tree distribution	Name and mail address of State officer in charge
New Jersey.....	Department of Conservation and Development, Division of Forests and Parks.	Director, Dept. of Conservation and Development, State House Annex, Trenton, N. J.
New York.....	New York Conservation Department, Division of Lands and Forests.	Director, Division of Lands and Forests, Albany, N. Y.
North Carolina.....	Department of Conservation and Development, Division of Forestry.	State Forester, Raleigh, N. C.
North Dakota.....	State School of Forestry.....	State Forester, Bottineau, N. Dak.
Ohio.....	Agricultural Experiment Station, Department of Forestry.	State Forester, Wooster, Ohio.
Oklahoma.....	Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board.	Director, Division of Forestry, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Oregon.....	State Board of Forestry.....	State Forester, Salem, Oreg.
Pennsylvania.....	Department of Forests and Waters.	Chief Forester, Department of Forests and Waters, Harrisburg, Pa.
South Carolina.....	State Commission of Forestry....	State Forester, 503 State Office Bldg., Columbia, S. C.
South Dakota.....	State Department of Agriculture..	Division of Horticulture, Department of Agriculture, State House, Pierre, S. Dak.
Tennessee.....	Department of Conservation Forestry Division.	State Forester, 319 7th Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn.
Texas.....	State Forest Service.....	Director, Texas Forest Service, College Station, Tex.
Utah.....	Utah State Agricultural College..	School of Forestry, Logan, Utah.
Vermont.....	Department of Conservation and Development.	State Forester, Montpelier, Vt.
Virginia.....	Virginia Conservation Commission, Virginia Forest Service.	State Forester, Virginia Forest Service, Charlottesville, Va.
Washington.....	State College of Washington Agricultural Experiment Station.	Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, Pullman, Wash.
West Virginia.....	Conservation Commission.....	State Forester, Charleston, W. Va.
Wisconsin.....	Wisconsin Conservation Department.	Director, Conservation Department, Madison, Wisc.
Wyoming.....	University of Wyoming.....	Director, State Experiment Farms, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyo.

TREES FOR MEMORIAL PURPOSES

When the World War came to an end in November 1918, the thoughts of the Nation turned at once to finding appropriate memorials for those who had fallen in the War. For this purpose it seemed especially fitting that each community commemorate the sacrifice made by its own citizens by planting, with suitable ceremonies, groves or avenues of trees, which should serve as living monuments to the fallen soldiers. Many organizations took up the idea, and the Secretary of Agriculture addressed a letter to the Governors of the States suggesting that they commend to the citizens of their States, and particularly to those in attendance upon its schools, such an observance of Arbor Day as would secure a widespread planting of trees dedicated to those whose lives were sacrificed in the great struggle to preserve American rights and the civilization of the world.

Thousands of memorial-tree plantings have been made since that time; single trees in memory of individuals, memorial plantings along streets and highways, and groves in parks and on community grounds (fig. 16). The custom has also been extended to include trees and groves in honor of patriotic and civic organizations and to mark historic spots.

This memorial value of trees is no new thing. Many trees in many parts of this country have become memorial trees through association with notable persons and events. Because of long life, such trees record themselves in the traditions of the community and the memo-

ries of its people. Many of our Presidents have been ardent tree lovers, and many are the trees that have become famous through such association. Of the living George Washington trees, for instance, there are more than 40 at Mount Vernon, Va., which were planted by



F-321128

FIGURE 16.—In Washington, D. C., this white birch "Mothers' Tree" was planted by the District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs to honor the mothers of America.

Washington's own hands or under his supervision (fig. 17). The Penn Treaty Elm, the Connecticut Charter Oak, the Washington Cambridge Elm, are no more, but the fame of each lives on, and they are each perpetuated by one or more scions.

Outstanding living tree memorials, representing different parts of the country, include, among many others, the King's Pine of Maine, the Glebe House Sycamore of Connecticut, the War Scythe Balsam Poplar of New York, Pennsylvania's Liberty Elm, the Treaty Oak

of the District of Columbia, North Carolina's Battleground Oak, the Lanier Oak of Georgia, the De Soto Oak of Florida, the Confederate Oak of Mississippi, the La Fitte Live Oak of Louisiana, the Santa Anna Surrender Oak of Texas, the Arkansas Council Oak, the Logan Elm of Ohio, the Indiana Constitutional Elm, the James Fenimore Cooper Oak of Michigan, the Delaware and Wyandotte



F-270561

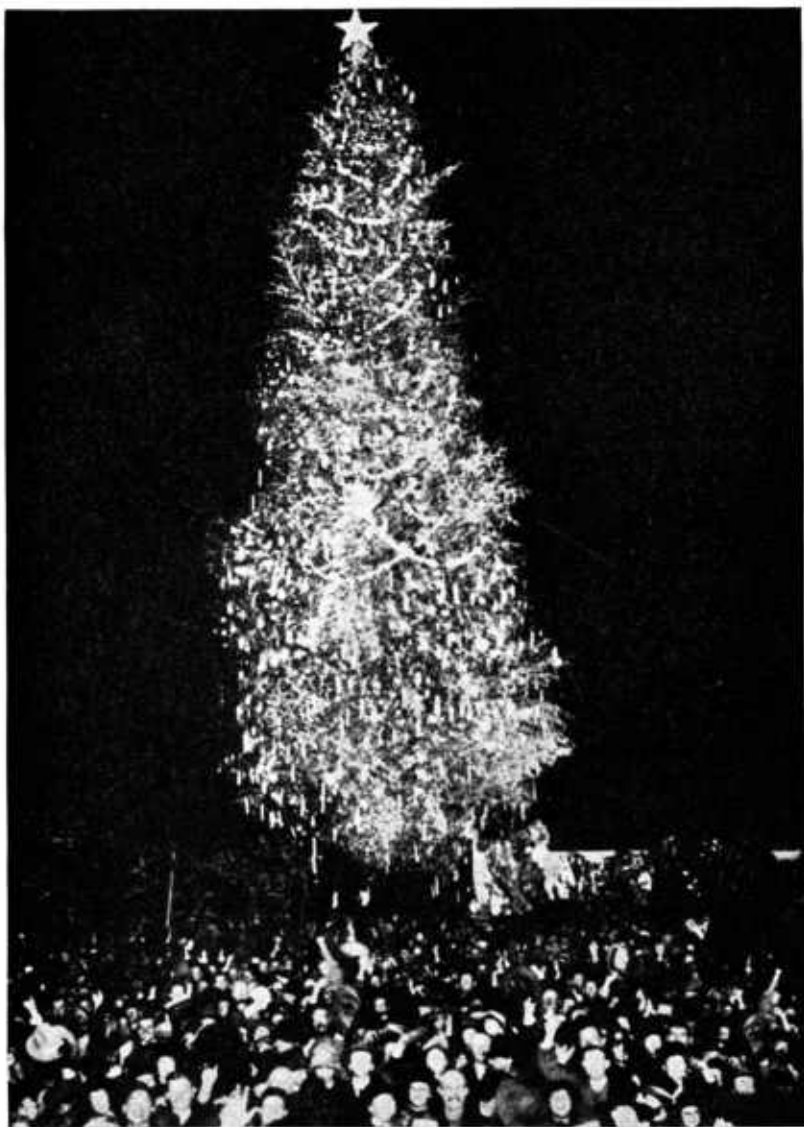
FIGURE 17.—Pecan trees planted on the grounds at Mount Vernon by George Washington. The nuts were given to him by Thomas Jefferson. At the time the picture was taken the tree on the right was 30 inches in diameter at breast height and 120 feet tall; the tree on the left was 34 inches in diameter.

Maple of Kansas, the Montana Twin Pines, the western red cedar in Washington under whose branches territorial volunteers camped to watch for Indian raiding parties in Yakima Pass, and that giant among trees, the General Sherman Sequoia in California.

ARBOR DAY AND CHRISTMAS TREES

Many people are troubled about the question of cutting evergreens for Christmas trees, which have become inseparable from the full celebration of Christmas, especially where there are children. A more intimate knowledge of the principles of forestry will make the answer

plain. Forestry looks not only to the perpetuation but also to the wise and proper use of forests and woodlands. It is possible, by careful selection of trees to be cut, to obtain evergreen trees for Christmas not only without injury but also often with positive benefit



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FIGURE 18.—The outdoor municipal Christmas tree at San Francisco, Calif.

to the forest, just as it is possible to thin out stands of young trees for fuel and obtain faster growth and greater returns in saw timber from the remaining trees.

In other words, Christmas trees, like other trees, should be cut in accordance with the principles of forestry. In some places Christmas-

tree plantations are managed to supply the demand, especially near large consuming centers or where suitable evergreens do not grow naturally in abundance. Emphasis needs to be put on proper care in selecting the trees to be cut rather than on restriction of the use of Christmas trees. Indeed, if properly directed, there is no reason why the joy associated with the Christmas evergreen may not be a means of arousing in the minds of young children an appreciation of the beauty and usefulness of trees; and keen appreciation of the beauty and usefulness of trees is a long step toward the will to plan and care for them, to use them wisely, to provide for their perpetuation, and in every way to respond to the inspiration of the spirit of Arbor Day.

The use of living trees as Christmas trees is becoming more and more popular, and this custom is likely to direct the attention of individuals and communities away from the more destructive methods of adapting wintergreens to the celebration of Christmas (fig. 18).

INFORMATION ABOUT PLANTING

The permanent success of the Arbor Day plan, as of any other plan involving tree planting, is conditioned upon the selection of the right species and upon proper attention to the planting and the subsequent care of the trees. So varied are the conditions of soil, climate, and site in the United States that it would take a volume to discuss adequately the species suitable for planting in the different regions and localities; nor is it certain that a species suitable to a certain region will thrive on any particular site. Also the purpose of the planting is an important consideration in the selection of species; some that are adapted for ornamental use may be totally unsuitable in a timber plantation, farm woodland, or field shelterbelt. It is recommended therefore that assistance be obtained from State forestry or other authorities before any Arbor Day planting program is undertaken. In every State there is now either a forestry department, State horticulturist, extension forester, agricultural college, or other agency from which may be obtained suggestions as to the best kinds and sizes of trees to be planted for different purposes, as well as information on the time to plant, the methods of planting, and the proper spacing of trees.

Detailed information on planting and caring for trees may also be found in the following publications, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., which can be procured at 5 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

- Farmers' Bulletin 1208, Trees for Town and City Streets.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1482, Trees for Roadside Planting.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1591, Transplanting Trees and Shrubs.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1453, Growing and Planting Coniferous Trees on the Farm.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1123, Growing and Planting Hardwood Seedlings on the Farm.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1177, Care and Improvement of the Farm Woods.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1392, Black Walnut for Timber and Nuts.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1628, Growing Black Locust Trees, will be of interest to tree-planting farmers, especially in the Eastern States.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1256, Slash Pine.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1486, Longleaf Pine Primer.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1517, Loblolly Pine Primer.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1671, Shortleaf Pine.
- Farmers' Bulletin 1664, Christmas Trees as a Cash Crop for the Farm.
- Unnumbered Publication, Trees That Temper the Western Winds.

ARBOR DAY AND THE SPIRIT OF CIVIC BETTERMENT

Yearly tree plantings have such a far-reaching effect on the community spirit, and through that on civic and social betterment, that no community can afford to neglect them. A clean and beautiful town is a source of pride to its citizens and a constant incentive to them to go on and do better. A slovenly town is apt to mean slovenly



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FIGURE 19.—As our available forests are cut over, increasing numbers of owners of large tracts of timberlands are becoming interested in measures of reforestation either by natural means or planting. The thrifty slash pine plantation shown here was made on private timber lands in 1925 in Louisiana. It has been protected from fire.

inhabitants. The celebration of Arbor Day may very well be the turning point in the attitude of the community toward its civic duties and by consequence toward its social life and its manner of conducting business. Nothing so helps to beautify a city or town as trees, and few things so educate the people in public spirit and foresight as the care of trees.

The celebration of Arbor Day by the planting of trees is the assumption of an all-year-round responsibility. An essential part of the Arbor Day program is the assignment of subsequent care of the trees to individuals or organizations, such as Boy or Girl Scouts, particular classes in a school, civic associations, or other such bodies. The assignment should be definite and the responsibility clearly defined. Only in this way will the purpose of the planting be achieved. It is not enough to put a tree in the ground and sing a song over it. Someone must see that it has the water, light, and soil fertility necessary to enable it to grow and that it is properly equipped with guard and stake where there is danger of its being injured. If this is neglected, the fruits of the planting may be thrown away.

Arbor Day plantings also lead to greater appreciation of the beauty and civic value of trees, shrubs, and vines in parks and woodlands. No one who has come to a full realization of this beauty and value will strip dogwood, laurel, or other flowering shrubs and trees or ruin them permanently for the sake of temporary personal gratification. The spirit of Arbor Day rules out the thoughtless, unsportsmanlike habit of "helping yourself regardless" and substitutes the principle of helping your community, your State, and your country. Arbor Day teaches not only that such a principle is generous and public-spirited but also that it pays in the long run.

In more than threescore years since its first celebration Arbor Day has become firmly entrenched in the traditions of our country. It already has its place in our history. But the spirit of the day is unique in that it looks not backward but always forward. It directs the eyes of all not toward some achievement of the past but to a goal to be reached in the future. It celebrates not what we have done but what we hope and determine to do now and in the days to come. It appeals to the spirit of youth and to all that is generous and forward looking in men of every age. It carries with it the inspiration to work toward the betterment of the community, the State, and the Nation (fig. 19).

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